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cont
death is measured by the ability of said nucleic acid to complement *ced-3* or *ced-4*
mutations in an *in vivo* or *in vitro* bioassay; and

(c) a nucleic acid which is both structurally and functionally related to the *ced-3*
[gene] nucleic acid as described in (a) and (b).

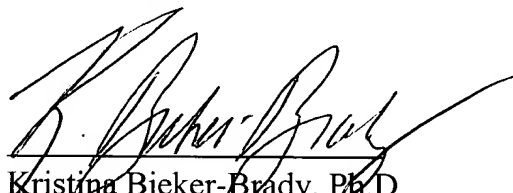
REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 1-4, 7-15, 17-18, and 20-68,
and amends claims 5, 6, 16, and 19. No new matter has been introduced by the present
amendment. If there are any charges, or any credits, please apply them to Deposit
Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

May 24, 2000



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01997.198007 Preliminary Amendment.wpd